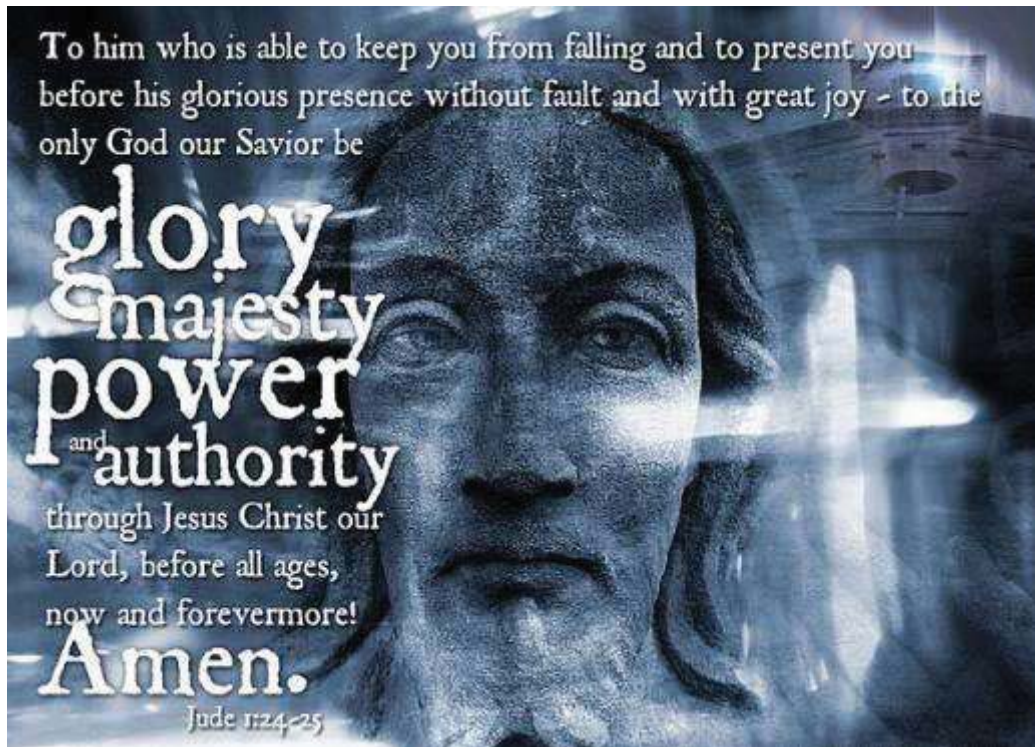


# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Midweek Service of  
Prayer and Preaching*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ON TO THE NEXT THING.** The sanctuary has been improved and updated. Now what? Air Conditioning! When we committed to improving the sanctuary, we decided that air conditioning would come after the physical renovation of the sanctuary. Well, it's time. We'll be raising money from now until... hopefully before it gets hot so that we can have air conditioning in time for summer! Please prayerfully consider how you can support Zion as we work for a more comfortable sanctuary for the summer months.

**J@CK! July at Camp for the Kingdom** is the name of our Mission Trip for this summer. Mark your calendars for July 27 – August 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will be going to Camp Pioneer for a week of work, spiritual growth and fellowship. All are welcome and invited to come on this trip! We will have details (including pricing information) in the April Newsletter and in these announcements.

**M.R.A.P.** Or, the Men's Retreat @ Pioneer is scheduled for April 10-13. We'll spend a long weekend at Camp Pioneer in prayer, God's Word and fellowship. The Bible studies will be a 5-part series that will take you through the basics of the Gospel. If you can't make it Thursday (6pm) – Sunday (2pm), but can only make it for a part of the weekend, that's OK, too. There's a sign-up sheet in the narthex, or you can contact Pastor Duncan or Vicar David if you are interested.

**DID YOU KNOW** that Zion has a Long Term Planning Committee? We do. And it is getting back together to pray about and attempt to discern what God's long-term plans for our congregation are and how to accomplish them. Please keep the Long Term Planning Committee in your prayers!

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** continues this Tuesday @ 7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in attending, please contact Alissa McLellan or the Church Office.

**ZION IS HOSTING** a creation seminar the weekend of June 13-15<sup>th</sup>. We will listen to experts explain the science behind the Creation and explain why contemporary theories about the origins of life are flawed. Invite your friends!

**WHO DO YOU KNOW** that needs an invitation to church? We all know people who have either fallen away from Christ, are struggling with their faith, or who have never heard the good news of the gospel. We are going to have a "Friendship Sunday" on May 11<sup>th</sup>. The music will be all familiar hymns, the liturgy will be very easy to follow, and the sermon will be the simple message of the gospel. We will have a time of fellowship in between the services as well.

# Welcome to Prayer and Preaching

This evening we conclude our study of the book of Jude by looking at the book's doxology. After telling his readers that dangerous evils are present in the church that seek to threaten the believers' faith and salvation, Jude concludes the book by reassuring his readers that their God is bigger than their enemies and that they will spend an eternity in His presence.

So what does this mean for us? Jude balances the real threat the wicked people, the devil and our own sinful flesh pose with the mercy and love of an all-powerful God. It is easy to downplay the one and exaggerate the consequences of the other. For example, it is all too easy to think that our past sins and way of life outside of Christ is enough to doom us eternally. On the other hand, it is also all too easy to think that, like a spoiled child who has his parents wrapped around his little finger, we can get away with whatever we want without the possibility of severe negative consequences. Jude balances the two and acknowledges the tension that exists: persistent sin is a threat to salvation; God, who desires our salvation, can do whatever He wants.

And so we too live with the same tension outlined in the book of Jude. We struggle and wrestle with the sin in our life. We do this not to earn our salvation, but because the outcome of sin left unchecked is unbelief. Fortunately, we have the Holy Spirit living in us, and as the controlling influence in our lives, He will continue to lead us to Christ our Savior! He will teach us to say "No" to ungodliness and sinful passions. He will teach us to say "Yes" to God and lead us in a faith that trusts in God's promises and moves us closer to Christ.

- Pastor Duncan

**Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor**  
**David Schultz, Vicar**

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# The Service of Prayer and Preaching

## *Introduction to Worship*

### *The Invocation*

Vicar: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### *Confession of Sins*

Vicar: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we might delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.**

### *Absolution Spoken by the Vicar*

**People: Amen.**

(Please be seated)

### *The Reading: Jude 24-25*

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

## *Sermon*

(Please stand)

### *The Nicene Creed*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.  
And on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### *The Prayers*

Vicar: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let  
us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For our brothers and sisters in Christ who labor under adverse conditions,  
that their faithful witness to the truth of the Gospel would bear the fruit of

repentance and faith in the lives of their family, friends and those who persecute them, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For the government officials at the local, state and federal level, that they would diligently discharge their duties with humility and wisdom, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For those who work to bring justice, peace, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For those who work to bring the gospel of Jesus Christ to the nations, that they would be blessed to see Christ at work through them, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For patience in affliction, wisdom in difficult situations, faithfulness in moments of despair, and steadfastness amidst trials and temptations, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For... let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

**People:** **Alleluia! Amen.**

Vicar: Taught by our Lord, and trusting in his promises, we are bold to pray:

**People:** **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## ***The Benediction***